

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer-implemented method for enabling users to access a computer system,
comprising:
5 selecting a universal local user account of a computer system dependent upon user
 account selection information of a user, wherein the universal local user
 account has access privilege on the computer system; and
 mapping the user to the universal local user account.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one
of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.
- 10 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating
a universal local user account access level to a corresponding group membership of the user.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein:
 the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user
 accounts; and
15 each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege
 level associated therewith.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said
 selecting,
20 wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective
 access privilege level associated therewith.

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6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining a non-local status of the user with respect to the computer system;

and

authorizing access to the computer system in response to performing said

determining;

wherein said determining and said authorizing are both performed prior to said

selecting; and

wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in

accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local

user account.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said authorizing access includes verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

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9. A computer-implemented method for enabling users to access a computer system, comprising:

determining a non-local status of a user with respect to a computer system; and
associating the user with a universal local user account after said determining,

wherein the universal local user account has access privilege on the computer system.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

determining group membership affiliations of the user; wherein said associating is performed dependent upon said group membership affiliations of the user.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein said associating includes correlating a universal local user account access level to a corresponding access level of a group membership of the user.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein:

the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user accounts; and

each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting, wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein said associating includes:

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selecting the universal local user account dependent upon user account selection information of the user; and
mapping the user to the universal local user account.

- 5 15. The method of claim 14 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.
16. The method of claim 14 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to an access level of a group membership of the user.
- 10 17. The method of claim 14 wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.
18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
 verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager prior to performing said mapping.
- 15 19. The method of claim 9 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

20. A computer system, comprising:

at least one data processing device;

instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data processing device;

wherein said instructions are configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

selecting a universal local user account of a computer system dependent

upon user account selection information of a user, wherein the

universal local user account has access privilege on the computer

system; and

mapping the user to the universal local user account.

21. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.

22. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to a corresponding group membership of the user.

23. The computer system of claim 20 wherein:

the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user accounts; and

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each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

24. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

5 creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting,

 wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

25. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

10 determining a non-local status of the user with respect to the computer system;
 and

 authorizing access to the computer system in response to performing said determining;

15 wherein said determining and said authorizing are both performed prior to said selecting; and

 wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

26. The computer system of claim 25 wherein said authorizing access includes verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager.

27. The computer system of claim 20 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

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28. A computer system, comprising:

at least one data processing device;

instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data
5 processing device;

wherein said instructions are configured for enabling said at least one data
processing device to facilitate:

determining a non-local status of the user with respect to a computer
system; and

10 associating the user with a universal local user account after said
determining, wherein the universal local user account has access
privilege on the computer system.

29. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said instructions are further configured for
enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

15 determining group membership affiliations of the user; wherein said associating is
performed dependent upon said group membership affiliations of the user.

30. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said associating includes correlating a
universal local user account access level to a corresponding access level of a group
membership of the user.

20 31. The computer system of claim 28 wherein:

the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user
accounts; and

each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege
level associated therewith.

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32. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting, wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

33. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said associating includes:

selecting the universal local user account dependent upon user account selection information of the user; and
mapping the user to the universal local user account.

34. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.

35. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to an access level of a group membership of the user.

36. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

37. The computer system of claim 36 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager prior to performing said mapping.

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38. The computer system of claim 28 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.